**SCENE III. Fishin’ on the Bank of a Pond**

*Enter BUTCH and JOHN BOY*

**JOHN BOY**

You look saddern usual. What’s the occasion this time, Butch.

**BUTCH**

Nuthin’ special. My sadness seems to be of the permanent nature.

**JOHN BOY**

Come on boss, you need to cheer up!

**BUTCH**

And if’n I cheer up, what’ll that do fer me?

**JOHN BOY**

Well, if not permanent like, then cheer up for just a short spell.

**BUTCH**

I must be sad when I have cause and smile  
at no man's jests, eat when I get hungry and sleep when I want to. I’m not a carin’ what other people thank.

**JOHN BOY**

Don’t be so obvious with yur feelin’s. Yer brother is finally a startin’ to come around, and you got to at least look like yur a tryin’ to change.

**BUTCH**

I had rather be a canker in a hedge than a rose to my dear ol’ brother, and it better fits my blood to be sad and angry than to pretend I’m happy in front of him. I’ve ne’r been accused o bein’ an honest man, it must not be denied  
that I am a plain-dealing villain. I’ll not sing in my cage. If I had my  
mouth, I would bite; if I had my liberty, I would do  
what I want: in the meantime let me be what I am and quit tryin’ to change me.

**JOHN BOY**

Can you make no use of your discontent?

**BUTCH**

Bein’ discontent is what I do best.  
Who comes here?

*Enter OTIS*

What news, Otis?

**OTIS**

I came yonder from a great supper: your  
brother the Cap’n is royally entertained by JEDEDIAH: and I  
can give you the head’s up of an intended marriage.

**BUTCH**

Very interestin’. Go on. Who’se the lucky couple?

**OTIS**

Why it’s none other than your brother's right hand man.

**BUTCH**

Who? the most exquisite Abner?

**OTIS**

Even he.

**BUTCH**

Well, I’ll be. Who’se the lucky girl?

**OTIS**

Why Daisy, JEDEDIAH’s daughter.

**BUTCH**

How’d you find out about this?

**OTIS**

I accidently overheard your brother Cap’n Jethro and ABNER, agreed upon a secrit plan for the Cap’n to woo Daisy for himself, and having obtained her, give her to Mr. Abner at the masquerade shindig tonight.

**BUTCH**

Ha ha! Come, come! I have a plan. Will you two gentlemen be so kind to assist me?

**JOHN BOY**

To the death, boss man.

**BUTCH**

To the masquerade! Who’s with me!

**OTIS**

Lead on, Boss!

*Exit*